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BOSTON, MASS.
Daily Record

THURSDAY, OCT. 16, 1958

CAPITOL REPORT By FULTON LEWIS, JR.

Ike's Pal to Quit Post

WASHINGTON — President Eisenhower's buddy from West Point cadet days, Lieut. Gen. Willis D. Crittenger, retired, is on his way out as president of the Free Europe Committee, which operates the highly controversial propaganda mill known as Radio Free Europe.

After two years at the stormy helm, his contract expires as of January 1.

To those who have been stirred to uneasiness by the philanderings of Radio Free Europe in glorifying Yugoslavia's Tito and Poland's Gomulka, this may have a blush of heartening news.

Unhappily, however, it is only a cruel mirage. The Free Europe board of directors has chosen, as his replacement, one Archibald Stevens Alexander, a wealthy New Jersey urbanite, who has been dabbling in radical Democratic politics for some ten years.



PRES. IKE

GEN. CRITTENBERGER'S frailty stemmed from the fact that he is a man trained in the business of warfare, not international

affairs, or radio, or news gathering, which are the talents the RFE job demands. His weakness, however, was negative. In that he just didn't know the job and the doctrinary mice at the operating level ran the show according to their peculiar caprices.

Mr. Alexander is no better equipped for the job. He is a retired lawyer, with no experience in any of the above mentioned lines, but he is far from negative, ideologically.

His record suggest, indeed, that under his tender tutelage, the Radio Free Europe "message of hope and freedom," so glamorously advertised to the public in the fund-raising appeals for "truth dollars," will in fact become the international propaganda voice of the Americans for Democratic Action.

of the ADA. In fact, as early as 1954, he became vice-chairman of the ADA in the State of New Jersey.

Prior to that, as of the time the ADA took over the Democratic Party in the Philadelphia convention of 1948, Mr. Alexander eased his way into Washington as Assistant Secretary of the Army, and under the ADA aegis of the Truman Administration, was advanced to Undersecretary.

The job was a reward for having been the Democratic sacrificial goat in the New Jersey senatorial race against incumbent Senator Robert Hendrickson, in which adventure he took the worst shellacking in the memory of the oldest inhabitants. The only comparable defeat was the one he chalked up four years later when he ran against incumbent Senator Alexander Smith.

BUT THE ADA TAKES care of its own and Governor Robert Meyner obliged by appointing him New Jersey State treasurer.

Governor Meyner, himself, is a favorite darling of the ADA as well as the AFL-CIO, and his administration is frankly loaded with ADA functionaries. It is worthy of note, therefore, that the New Jersey Democratic organization, which Governor Meyner controls as Khrushchev controls the Kremlin, saw fit to make Mr. Alexander the Democratic National Committeeman from New Jersey, partly in recognition of the fact that he was National Chairman of the Citizens for Stevenson in 1956.

This it will be remembered, is the campaign in which Mr. Stevenson proposed that we stop all testing of nuclear weapons, whether Soviet Russia would agree to do so or not. Mr. Archibald Alexander supported him, nay promoted him.

Into these nimble fingers then, is the Free Europe board directors delivering the vast propaganda machine in Munich and Portugal—the most powerful in the world—for the dissemination of the story of freedom according to the gospel of ADA. More about Mr. Alexander later.

Hear Fulton Lewis, Jr. Monday through

Friday, WYAC, 2 P.M.

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MR. ALEXANDER IS an old-time trusty

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(EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE)

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